

IN THE CLAIMS

Please ~~cancel~~ Claims 1-20; and

Please ~~add~~ Claims 21-30 as follows:

Complete Listing Of The Claims In This Application

Claims 1-20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (new)

A method for coupling a first cured thermoset composite structure and a second cured thermoset composite structure, said method comprising:

configuring a preform from uncured thermoset material for coupling said first and second cured thermoset composite structures at an abutment;

applying said preform to said first and second cured thermoset composite structures such that a build-up of uncured thermoset material is rendered at said abutment;

configuring a pressure device to have a inner surface having a contour corresponding to the contour of said abutment;

applying said pressure device inner surface in intimate contact with said abutment; and

autoclaving said perform and said applied pressure device at a predetermined pressure for curing said perform, wherein said pressure device transfers a pressure to said build-up which is greater than said predetermined pressure.

Claim 22 (new)

The method of Claim 21 further comprising configuring said pressure device to have an outer surface substantially parallel to said inner surface, wherein said inner surface

has a first radius corresponding to said abutment and said outer surface has a second radius which is greater than said first radius.

Claim 23 (new) The method of Claim 21 further comprising configuring said pressure device from silicone.

Claim 24 (new) The method of Claim 21 further comprising configuring said pressure device from a rubber type material which deforms under said predetermined pressure.

Claim 25 (new) The method of Claim 21, wherein said pressure device is a mandrel.

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Claim 26 (new) The method of Claim 21 further comprising coupling a third cured thermoset composite structure, said coupling comprising:

configuring another preform from uncured thermoset material for coupling said third structure to one of said first and second cured thermoset composite structures at another abutment;

applying said another preform to said third cured thermoset composite structure and to one of said first and second cured thermoset composite structures such that a build-up of uncured thermoset material is rendered at said another abutment;

configuring another pressure device to have a inner surface having a contour corresponding to the contour of said another abutment;

applying said another pressure device inner surface in intimate contact with said another

abutment; and

autoclaving said another perform and said applied another pressure device at said predetermined pressure for curing said another perform, wherein said another pressure device transfers a pressure to said another abutment build-up which is greater than said predetermined pressure.

Claim 27 (new) The method of Claim 26 further comprising configuring said another pressure device to have an outer surface substantially parallel to said another pressure device inner surface, wherein said another pressure device inner surface has a first radius corresponding to said another abutment and said another pressure device outer surface has a second radius which is greater than said another pressure device first radius.

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Claim 28 (new) The method of Claim 26 further comprising configuring said another pressure device from silicone.

Claim 29 (new) The method of Claim 26 further comprising configuring said pressure device and said another pressure device as a unitary device for said coupling of said first cured thermoset composite structure and said second cured thermoset composite structure and for said coupling of said third cured thermoset composite structure and said one of said first and second cured thermoset composite structures.

Claim 30 (new) The method of Claim 29 further comprising said unitary device

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transferring respective pressures to said abutment build-up and said another abutment build-up during
said autoclaving, wherein each of said respective pressures are greater than said predetermined pressure.

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